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Outcomes Documents – Regular Board Meeting

Location: SWCD Office/Remote Webex Meeting, Tuesday August 18, 2020 3:00 pm

SUPERVISORS: Jan Anderson*, Gene Carda*, Joyce Sawatzky*, Paul Hoppe*, Kevin Belkholm*

STAFF: Deanna Pomije*, Jerah Mattson*, Josh Votruba*, Mary Krueger-TSA (*present in office)

1. 3:05 Roll Call - *Approval of Agenda

Belkholm started the meeting as chair. No approval on the agenda; went straight to the consent agenda.

2. NRCS Report (Rasinski). Rasinski absent. No report submitted.

3. Sawatzky arrived at 3:20 and took over as chair.

4. *Consent Agenda (no discussion unless Supervisor requests)

Anderson requested the July 21, 2020 minutes be revised. Her motion on submitting a BWSR grant application for the Rosnow project did not include a grant application for the Hwy 65/Fish Lake project.

A brief discussion occurred around the next steps on the Rosnow project. Hoppe mentioned that the next steps fall within the Knife Lake Improvement District (KLID) as the sponsor. This involves contacting Mr. Rosnow about acquiring his signature on the access contract. Pomije reviewed briefly the grant application submitted to fund the Rosnow project includes additional practices centered around the removing the macroinvertebrate impairment on the Knife River. A new impairment for this river was just announced this year for E-coli bacteria.

Motion by Anderson, second by Carda to revise the July 21, 2020 minutes noting the motion for submitting a BWSR grant application for the Rosnow project did not include a grant application for the Hwy 65/Fish Lake project.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

3.1. Financial – receipts & disbursements, balance sheet, profit & loss reports

3.2. Outcomes Document:

- Kanabec SWCD Board – July 21, 2020

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Hoppe asked other Supervisors about the County Culvert inventory and how other townships are handling the inventory.

Motion by Carda, second by Belkholm to approve the consent agenda as presented

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5. *Approve Treasurer's Report

Motion by Anderson, second by Belkholm to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

6. Business

6.1. Snake 1W1P Update – Pomije went over the virtual kick off meetings, held on 8/4 & 8/6. In total 15 non-staff joined to address their concerns for the Watershed. She was impressed with the open sharing of the groups, especially 8/6, where there was a good mix of individuals. Our next Policy Cmte. meets 8/24 to approve the Tech. Advisory Cmte. members. Wenck has been busy working on the Snakes’ Water and Resources Narrative, the first part of the plan.

6.2. * AIS Expenses – (Total \$408.27)

- Mileage expense, June – Journey, Rachael, \$316.83
- Mileage expense, July-Aug., personal vehicle, Kyle, \$91.44

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve the AIS Expenses (new total \$408.27) as presented.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.3. *Upgrade Internet Options – CenturyLink and Midco both provided upgrade options. (consent agenda has more details on options) CenturyLink has a more reasonable offer being 89.99/month with a 2-year term. The speed will be 40Mbps down and 2Mbps up. Our current speed is 5.3Mbps down and .58Mbps up. A new modem can be leased for 9.99/month or the district can purchase one for a one-time payment of 99.99. The current modem may work for the upgrade so a new one may not be needed.

Motion by Anderson, second by Belkholm to approve the internet upgrade using CenturyLink. The price will be 89.99 with a 2-year term. If a new modem is needed, purchasing one for 99.99 has been approved over the leasing option.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.4. District Land Update (Belkholm) After harvesting the oats, Belkholm saw an herbicide resistant waterhemp, predominantly in the two west most fields. He tilled the waterhemp for control. Belkholm is unable to find Kernza seed. A 20-acre minimum is required for obtaining Kernza seed; where the District cropland is only 16.2 acres. He has decided planting Cereal Rye or Alfalfa would be the best alternative for now. By planting alfalfa, he would request a 5-year commitment from the District. It was discussed that the land should be used as demonstration/experimental purposes so planting Cereal Rye for the fall and winter is best. Belkholm will continue looking for Kernza seed in hopes to plant next year.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Anderson to approve Cereal Rye be planted on the district land in hopes to find Kernza seed for next year.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.5. *AIS Expenses – (Total \$408.27)

- Mileage expense, June – Journey, Rachael, \$316.83
- Mileage expense, July – Aug., personal vehicle, Kyle, \$91.44

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve AIS Expenses in the amount of \$408.27

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.6. *2021 SWCD Budget, continue discussion, Co. allocation request
Pomije reviewed the layout of the newly revised budget. She and Mattson put a lot of time into this latest version. She explained the recent changes.

Motion by Anderson, second by Belkholm to approve the 2021 SWCD Budget with the Co Allocation request for \$31,000 as presented.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.7. *McVay project ranking – adding watering access & erosion control practices (Votruba) Contract amendment, authorize Pomije to sign once finalized. We have a TSA cost estimate on the livestock watering access and one erosion control site. McVays have expressed concerns over cost, so we are planning with them to finalize the project.

Motion by Belkholm, second by Hoppe to approve Pomije as authorization to negotiate and sign a contract amendment with McVays on the addition of a watering access and/or erosion control practices when finalized.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.8. *Mattson, Jane & Mark – payment voucher approval, well sealing using State Cost Share FY18 funds - \$275 at 50%.

Motion by Carda, second by Hoppe to approve using State Cost Share FY18 funds to reimburse Mark & Jane Mattson for well sealing expenses in the amount of \$275.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.9. *MN Deed Career Force Center – Intern, no-cost, 260 hours

Pomije explained this option for a no fee intern available. A discussion included what the intern would possibly work on and whether this was the right time for another new staff member. Motion not needed, as the board declined this offer. It was suggested to pass this information on to the County and/or NRCS for possible career opportunities. Currently the District does not have enough work to offer for a full or part time Intern.

Pomije mentioned that because of the uncertainty of in-person schooling this year; Mattson may need to use leave or telework to cover childcare, if remote learning is instilled again. She has already signed a telework agreement.

7. Board Discussion: Ann Lake Treatment – Pomije reviewed different treatment options for Ann Lake.

Pomije reviewed some of the latest research into the treatment options for Ann Lake to address the high levels of Phosphorus (P) in the lake sediment (or high internal load). The cheapest option, Aluminum Sulfate (or Alum) was initially favored, but due to the various concerns over impact to the lake’s resources another alternative was considered. Phoslock was looked at closer. Phoslock is a compound consisting mostly of bentonite clay (95%) and lanthanum (5%), a soft metal which binds with P. She heard a presentation from SePro, a private company explaining the details of Phoslock. The most appealing element of Phoslock is its’ longevity. It lasts forever and its’ bond with P increases over time. Hoppe expressed still favoring the Alum treatment option. May look into grants next year to fund a treatment to Ann Lake or wait for the 1WIP funds, proposed to come in state FY23.

*Request postage funding – mailing around lake for promoting a public forum (9/26) on a treatment for Ann Lake, \$200

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve using Capacity funds in the amount of \$200 for postage costs

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

8. Project Updates:

The consent agenda includes details on project developments.

- Other Projects

Remove Wolfgram/Herder from the potential projects page. Wolfgram hasn't responded to Votruba after attempts to contact. Herder has responded and is not interested in the project.

Remove Tentis from the potential projects page. The current fix applied is working so they are choosing to leave it alone for now. They will contact us as needed in the future.

9. General Discussion / Public Input

10. Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports – assume all remote meetings - next meeting dates

- _____ - Rum Policy Cmte. Meeting, 5-7 pm
- _____ - East Central Landscape Cmte. Meeting (Hoppe)
- 8/15 – AIS Starry Trek Event, various lakes in County, seeking volunteers
- 8/21 – 2nd Annual Soil Health Field Day, Pine Co. Jon Stevens Farm
- 8/24 – Snake 1W1P Policy Cmte. Meeting (Hoppe, Pomije, Mattson)
- 8/29 – Ann Lake Treatment Public Forum, 9 am, location TBD
- 9/8 – Tues **Regular SWCD Board in-person Meeting**, 3 pm (all)
- 9/10 – COLA-AIS Remote Meeting, 5pm, in-person meeting Library Park, Mora (Sawatzky, Votruba), bring a chair
- 9/10 – Snake 1W1P Potential 1st Technical Advisory Cmte., (TAC) Remote Meeting 1:30 pm (Pomije, Mattson)
- 9/17 - Forestry Assoc. Remote Meeting, McGregor 10-12 pm (Hoppe, Carda)
- 10/3 –* Virtual Woodland Owner Workshop, Zoom, register by 8/28, \$35 ea. - No motion
- Date TBD, 4th Mon. – Snake River Watershed Board, 9 am (Hoppe, Pomije)
- Area 3 Annual Meeting (Sept.) – Cancelled

10. **Evaluate the Meeting** – What worked? What needs further discussion?

Agenda items for next month?

11. 05:13 pm Adjourn Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Carda adjourn meeting at 05:13 pm.

Affirmative: Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Hoppy, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

***Seeking Board Decisions**